GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:323
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2008
DRY LAND FARMING
Singh Shri Dushyant

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the allocation made by the Union Government to various States for the promotion of dryland farming during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) the total area brought under dryland farming in the country during the said period, State-wise;

(c) the incentives granted to the farmers for dryland farming; and

(d) the success achieved in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 323 DUE FOR REPLY ON 22ND DECEMBER, 2008.

(a): For the promotion of rainfed / dryland farming, various watershed programmes are being implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Rural Development through an integrated watershed management approach. Special emphasis on rainfed/dryland areas has also been given in all other major programmes of the Ministry of Agriculture. The details of the programmes are:

(A) Watershed Programmes

i. Ministry of Agriculture

1. National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA)

2. Soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Project and Flood Prone River (RVP & FPR)

3. Watershed Development Project for Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA)

4. Reclamation and Development of Alkali and Acidic Soils (RADAS)

ii. Ministry of Rural Development

1. Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP)

2. Desert Development Programme (DDP)

3. Integrated Wasteland Development Project (IWDP)

(B) Other Major Programmes

1. Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)

2. Macro Management of Agriculture (MMA)

3. National Food Security Mission (NFSM)

4. National Horticulture Mission (NHM)

5. Micro Irrigation (MI)

6. Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm & Maize(ISOPOM)

Details of releases made to the State Governments in the last 3 years and allocation for the current year under the aforesaid programmes are given at Annexure I and II.

Research Projects on dryland agriculture are also being implemented by the Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) under the All India Coordinated Research Project on Dryland Agriculture (AICRPDA). The State wise allocation under AICRPDA may be seen at Annexure-III.

(b): Under the various watershed programmes which also cover dryland areas, an area of 2.64 m.ha has been developed by Ministry of Agriculture and 11338 watershed projects have been sanctioned by Ministry of Rural Development in the last three years (2005-06 to 2007-08). The State wise area coverage may be seen at Annexure-IV.

(c): In the watershed programmes, assistance is provided to the farmers for natural resource management related activities. Besides, in most of the other agriculture development programmes, incentives are provided to farmers in terms of subsidy for various agricultural inputs/operations. Training support is also provided to the farmers on various technologies concerning dryland/rainfed farming under the aforesaid programmes.

(d): The comprehensive assessment of the aforesaid watershed progrmames made by International Crops Research Institute for the Semi Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) revealed that the programmes have helped in creating additional water storage capacity for supplementary / live saving irrigation, increase in cropping intensity & productivity, farmer's income and reduction in soil erosion & runoff.